Facility of Speed Post

1818. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Speed Post facility is available only in the big cthes of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date. State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to extend such facilthes in rural areas, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to review the functioning of this service; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. Speed Post facility is available in cthes, towns and rural areas in the country.

(b) There are 1166 Speed Post Centres in the Country. The list of Centres is given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below). The details of Speed Post Centres is available on the website of the Department www.indiapost.gov.in

(c) The network of Speed Post service is extended taking into account the market requirements, customer needs, expected business, transport facilthes available etc.

(d) Review of the Speed Post service is an on going process and it is done by assessing the market challenges and emerging opportunthes for postal services. Constant review aims to make this product customer friendly and competitive. Introduction of Speed Post One India One Rate, reduction in local Speed Post charges. Credit facility. Collection from the customer's premises etc. are steps taken after such reviews.

Statement

List of Speed Post Centres

State/UT	No. of Speed Post Centres	No. of State Speed Post Centres	Total
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	23	59	82
Arunachal Pradesh	1	10	11
Assam	6	18	24
Bihar	11	53	64
Chhattisgarh	6	32	38
Delhi	1	0	1
Goa	2	12	14
Gujarat	7	54	61
Haryana	16	2	18
Himachal Pradesh	5	17	22
Jammu & Kashmir	2	17	19

1	2	3	4
Jharkharjd	4	80	84
Karnataka	23	11	34
Kerala	13	12	25
Madhya Pradesh	12	80	92
Maharashtra	9	62	71
Manipur	1	25	26
Meghalaya	*I*	24	25
Mizoram	1	20	21
Nagaland	2	11	13
Orissa	5	38	43
Punjab	17	18	35
Rajasthan	7	37	44
Tamil Nadu	45	21	66
Tripura	1	14	15
UTof Andaman & Nicobar	1	3	4
UT of Daman & Diu	-	2	2
UTof Puducherry	1	1	• 2
Uttar Pradesh	40	48	88
Uttarakhand	14	15	29
West Bengal	11	80	91
Army Postal Service	2	0	2
TOTAL:	290	876	1166

Policy for infrastructure development in NE region

1819. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of comprehensive policy and programmes formulated and being implemented by Government for infrastructural development in the North Eastern Region (NER), particularly in the Sikkim State; and

(b) if so, the details of projects undertaken by Government for execution in NER during the last three years, project-wise/State wise?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) For the overall development, including infrastructure development of the North-Eastern Region (NER) including Sikkim the Government of India (Gol) have announced and are following up the policy that all the Central Government Ministries/ Departments (except the exempted ones) make at least 10% provision in their plan budget for NER. The unspent balances out of this mandatory provision do not lapse and are credited